MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

24 FEBRUARY 1981

Iran

Khomeyni Speech--In a speech to police officers, broadcast by Tehran radio, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni called for harmony between policemen and revolutionary guards in safeguarding the cities, stopping the activities of "troublemakers" and handing over to the courts those who engage in "acts of terrorism." All the armed forces should be united, Khomeyni went on, and no section should operate independently. He warned that some members of a "fifth column" are trying to split the guards corps from the rest of the armed forces. These disruptive "conspiracies" are being carried out by "corrupt individuals" who have penetrated many places. Khomeyni also called on the armed forces not to interfere in political issues and never to lean toward "one group." Khomeyni added that "all the weapons" should be put at the disposal of "all the forces." Turning to writers and orators, Khomeyni noted that "some tongues" are "worse than clubs," having a harmful effect "hundreds of times worse than that of other clubs." Rather than create dissension and weaken morale, people should control their tongues, he said, and make sure that "pens are not partners with the daggers that are aimed at us from behind."

Nabavi on Strikes, Inflation--In a Tehran radio interview, Minister of State for Executive Affairs Behzad Nabavi warned the public against "counterrevolutionary elements" who are provoking and encouraging "strikes and chaos." Nabavi stressed that action will be taken to defeat the current strike by employees of the Tehran and Suburbs United Bus Company. The government will not give in to pressure, he said, but will call in volunteers from other cities to operate the buses. He indicated that the government is neither able nor willing to meet the strikers' demands for a New Year's bonus. Nabavi also revealed that the government has decided to freeze the prices of some 20 commodities in short supply to combat inflation.

Fate of Britons--Citing the revolutionary prosecutor's office, AFP reported that the three British missionaries held in Iran will be released in the next few days but that businessman Andrew Pyke is accused of fraud and spying and investigation of his case is continuing.

Oil Ministry Statement--An Oil Ministry spokesman strongly denied reports that Iran has given discounts and sold oil to "banned countries," Tehran radio reported, claiming that such "rumors" have been spread by "ill-intentioned" foreign newspapers and agencies.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

INA and Tehran radio reported continued exchanges of fire along most western and southern fronts. INA claimed that Iraqi aircraft attacked an Iranian camp across the border from Panjwin, scoring "direct hits" and returning safely to base, while Tehran radio asserted that Iranian fighters chased off Iraqi planes that appeared over southern and western border areas.

Iraq

The program content of Baghdad radio's Persian service has changed since the outbreak of the Iran-Iraq conflict in September 1980. Until that time, the 3-hour program consisted mainly of talks and commentaries, quotes from speeches by Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, a newscast, an Iraqi press review and a review of Iranian listeners' letters. In September, the radio began broadcasting appeals to the Iranian people and armed forces, interspersed with martial music, and on 20 November introduced a 1-hour program in Azeri. During December and January messages from Iranian POW's were carried, as well as commentaries critical of the Iranian regime and leadership. Talks on Kordestan and the Kurds were introduced in early February.

Kurdish Situation

Appeal for Unity in Iraq--In a statement broadcast on 21 February by the clandestine Voice of Iraqi Revolution radio, the "command committee" of the patriotic union of Kurdistan appealed for unity among Kurdish forces as a way to help end the "fascist regime" in Baghdad, establish "self-rule" in Kurdistan and create democracy throughout Iraq. The statement complained that one of the leaders of the patriotic union was arrested by members of the Unionist Socialist Party of Kurdistan when he went to negotiate with them. It condemned such "tribal" behavior and called for an end to "fratricide."

Clashes, Surrenders in Iran--Tehran radio reported various clashes with "counterrevolutionaries" and illegal armed groups between 19 and 23 February, citing incidents in Mahabad and Miandow Ab, while the clandestine Radio Iran said citizens and revolutionary guards fought in Naqadeh recently. Tehran radio also claimed that revolutionary guards unearthed a "considerable" quantity of arms and ammunition in Sanandaj on 19 February and that so far 100 people affiliated with illegal armed groups have surrendered with their arms in Paveh.

Saudi Arabia

Fahd Interview--In a 22 February interview with Swedish newsmen reported by SPA, Crown Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz said Saudi Arabia buys sophisticated weapons from any country that can sell them. Even Soviet arms could be purchased, he indicated, if "American and European doors were closed" to the kingdom.

Denial of Planes Request--According to Riyadh television, the Saudi Ministry of Defense and Aviation denied a report, which it attributed to "the Zionist enemy's" radio, that Saudi Arabia has asked to buy Tornado aircraft jointly manufactured by the United Kingdom, Italy and the FRG. The West German news agency DPA, which had earlier reported the request, cited the FRG Government spokesman as saying on 23 February that his government "continues to believe" that Saudi Arabia wants to buy the aircraft.

Kuwait

The government submitted its resignation, KUNA reported, after the National Assembly election results were made public. It will continue to serve in a caretaker role until a new government is formed.

Inter-Arab Affairs

The Ash-Shariqah newspaper AL-KHALIJ accused the Egyptian intelligence service of being involved in the kidnapping of Jordan's Beirut charge d'affaires and claimed the diplomat may be held in Cairo. According to the newspaper, an Egyptian intelligence team cooperating with the rightwing Lebanese front arrived in eastern Beirut before the kidnapping.

Syria

Damascus radio reported that President Hafiz al-Asad held talks with EC Council of Ministers President Cristoph van der Klaauw.

Israel-Palestinians

The IDF General Staff announced a public callup exercise on 23 February, Jerusalem radio reported, mobilizing 10 reserve units. Reacting to the callup, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat ordered a state of alert among all Palestinian and joint forces, Voice of Palestine radio reported.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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WALDEIM'S REPRESENTATIVE TO RESUME NEGOTIATIONS

BK240813 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0800 GMT 24 Feb 81

[Text] According to AP of Pakistan, the personal representative of the UN secretary general on the Afghanistan issue, Perez de Cueller, will resume negotiations later this week in New York, seeking a dialogue between the concerned parties for a political solution to the Afghan crisis.

SOLTAN 'ALI KESHTMAND'S ACTIVITIES REPORTED

Chairs Economic Council Meeting

LD230016 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 22 Feb 81

[Text] The second meeting of the Economic Advisory Council was chaired yesterday by Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, vice president of the DRA Revolution Council and deputy prime minister, at the offices of the State Planning Committee.

First, the draft agenda was discussed and, after being put to a vote, was unanimously approved. The following topics were discussed thoroughly and the necessary decisions were made:

The policy lines of the Economic Advisory Council were approved. In pursuance of the resolutions of the Council of Ministers and the DRA Revolution Council Presidium, the subject of the establishment and activation of the Economic Advisory Council and the development of the private sector of the national economy, in the interest of the country's socioeconomic development, was discussed. For the unity of the patriotic and progressive forces, for the purpose of creating coordinated, productive cooperation between private and state sectors and for the utilization of all existing opportunities and forces for the country's prosperity, it was decided that permanent subcommittees should be established within the framework of the Economic Advisory Council. These committees have the duty of carrying out preliminary specific and general studies, with the cooperation and participation of the representatives of private and state institutes and with experienced and professional people. They are to submit their views for final decision to a general meeting of the Economic Advisory Council.

The committees that were established are as follows: the agricultural and livestock committee; the machine and handicrafts industries committee; the domestic and foreign trade committee; and the constructions and services committee. Decisions were also made on the possible establishment of other special committees and a mixed committee, deriving from the abovementioned permanent subcommittees, on special topics.

Attends Soviet Reception

LD240012 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 23 Feb 81

[Text] The 63d anniversary of the foundation of the liberating Soviet Army was celebrated today at a reception at the USSR Embassy in Kabul.

The reception, which was given by Soviet Military Attache General Rahmanov, was attended by Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, PDPA Central Committee Politburo member, vice president of the DRA Revolution Council and deputy prime minister; some members of the Politburo and Central Committee; members of the Presidium and the Revolution Council; some members of the Council of Ministers; soldiers, officers and generals of the Armed Forces; party cadres; a number of high-ranking civil servants; and the ambassadors and military attaches of foreign countries in Kabul.

FRENCH REPORTER DESCRIBES FIGHTING IN QANDAHAR

OW212029 Paris AFP in English 2017 GMT 21 Feb 81

[Text] Islamabad, 21 Feb (AFP)--Soviet and Afghan troops, backed by tanks and heavy artillery, battled Moslem rebels for control of the Afghan city of Qandahar in fierce around-the-clock fighting earlier this week, a French television crew reported.

Reporter Oliver Warin of France's first television network and two technicians stayed in Qandahar from last Sunday through Wednesday. They reported that during that period, pitched fighting raged "night and day." In Mr Warin's estimate, the rebels were holding about 80 percent of the city, a major center in Afghanistan's south.

On the morning of 18 February, the reporter said, Soviet tanks opened fire on the Maladjat quarter of Qandahar, where his team was staying. Half an hour later, a shell hit the insurgents' headquarters, killing the top leader with two of his men, followed by a second that injured nine more.

When the television crew finally decided to pull out on 19 February, the boom of artillery fire could still be heard from afar.

Mr Warin said that the area between Qandahar and the Pakistani Province of Baluchistan was essentially under rebel control, with government forces visible on the major highways only. "It was thus that we were able to make it to Qandahar on our motorcycles without donning the turbans we otherwise used to complete our disguise," the reporter added.

"Our guides," Mr Warin recalled," took us directly to the bazaar area aboard pushcarts. Immediately after nightfall, the local leader calling himself Hadji Ramazan launched an attack on the government militiamen massed inside the city's technical college.

"The mujahedeen began by trying to harangue them through a megaphone: 'God is great. Do not sell yourself to the Soviets. Do not sell Afghanistan to the Soviets.' The others answered with their heavy machineguns. As the mujahedeen shot back with their light automatic weapons, tracer bullets were all around us."

Mr Warin said that his team spent the next day at rebel headquarters, where they were told that the movement numbered 3,000 combatants in a city of more than 150,000. All that the government controlled permanently, the rebels had added, were the official buildings and the city's geographical center with a square and its main hotels.

The following night, Mr Warin continued, machinegun fire could be heard from early evening onward in the bazaar. "As we approached," he said, "we saw that tanks had taken position there. People everywhere were shouting, 'Allaho Akhbar' (God is great) and 'death to the Russians,' to the noise of bursting volleys and cannon fire."

"The next day," the reporter continued, "as we were trying to return in order to film any traces left of the fighting, tanks were attempting to encircle our quarter. They hid us in a mosque with a cannon that made the windows tremble.

"At 1 pm, the mujahedeen's commander gave orders to have us evacuated, and we crossed the combat zone to leave the city. One shell fell 20 meters (yards) from us and we had the impression of entering a firing range, but we finally made it to a village 10 km (6 miles) from Kandahar."

The mujahedeen, according to Mr Warin, estimated that 40 civilians were killed and 60 wounded in that last battle, which also damaged two mosques and 50 houses.

BAKHTAR CITES PRESS EDITORIAL ON CIA ACTIVITIES

LD230632 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0423 GMT 23 Feb 81

[Text] Kabul, 22 Feb (BAKHTAR)--The "Truth of April Revolution" in today's editorial entitled "CIA--the Real Conductor of Counter-Revolution" writes:

The criminal and counter-revolutionary activities of miscreants, the enemies of April Revolution, in a period of less than three years have proved that they lack all human principles and do not stop short of any criminal and mean actions for the realization of their abominable and antinational purposes. These small motley bands, who under the direct and paternal aegis of American imperialism and its devilish espionage organization, namely CIA, Beijing hegemonism, the most reactionary regimes and dictators of the world such as traitor As-Sadat, Ziaul Haq, the despotic dictator of Pakistan, and the Saudi dynasty, have nestled across the border of our country.

These bandits deliberately want to get the heinous intrigues of imperialism and its espionage agencies, especially the CIA's, implemented in the country.

As a matter of fact, these groups are the tools of CIA and similar organizations, like the espionage agencies of Israel, West Germany, England and others. The reins of these rings are in the hand of CIA, an organization whose history is replete with crimes, intrigues, invasions and [word indistinct], slaughters and wars against progressive humanity and national liberation movements.

The most simple modus operandi of this devilish espionage agency is arming the Nazi-mongoring circles, the creation of seats of war and conflict, the slaughter of defenceless people, tragic killing of children, women and youth, arsoning of villages, cities, hospitals and schools, terrorizing the leaders of the country and the revolutionary party activists in attempts to paralyse the national economy, economic and military blockade, threats and intimidation, and blackmail. Vietnam, Korea, Chile, El Salvador, South Africa, Zimbabwe and tens of other countries can be cited as examples where these atrocious methods are being applied.

Our beloved country, which has been exposed to the direct aggression and intrigue of this espionage agency, is another vivid example.

CIA, by spending millions of dollars under various deceitful names such as the so-called "Assistance" to hire the mercanaries and infiltrate them into our land for putting into effect its heinous plots and objectives, has made desperate efforts. As a matter of fact it is CIA which is the creator and the organizer of (?armed) reactionary bands and building up the image of the so-called religious leaders beyond the border and it is CIA which endeavors to eliminate the gains of the April Revolution on the one hand and to artificially turn Afghanistan into a seat of tension in the world and to exploit it for the realization of its aggressive policy.

The balance of the (?power) in the world arena in the interest of the camp of peace and socialism is a real guarantee for the future successful world development and by relying on the unshakeable will of our heroic people and the decisive solidarity and unity of our loyal friends, our country would surmount all the difficulties and all the intrigues and plots of these criminal bands, and traitors of the country and of the revolution will be relegated to the cemetery of history.

ISLAMIC CONFERENCE OFFICIAL HOLDS NEWS CONFERENCE

BK221608 Dacca Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 22 Feb 81

[Text] The Islamic Conference goodwill mission will go to Tehran on the 28th of this month and on to Baghdad on the 2d of next month in its bid to narrow down the differences between the two warring Islamic nations. This was stated by visiting OIC [Organization of Islamic Conference] Assistant Secretary General (Ashardu Zaman) at a news conference in Dacca this afternoon. He said the eight-member goodwill mission is due to assemble in Jidda by the 27th of this month.

In reply to a question, (Ashardu Zaman) said both Iran and Iraq have already agreed to receive the mission in their capitals. He said immediately after the outbreak of the Gulf war last September, the Islamic Conference formed a goodwill mission with its secretary general and the then chairman, the president of Pakistan. The committee was expanded at the At-Ta'if summit to include the presidents of Bangladesh, Guinea, Zambia, Senegal, Turkey and the PLO chief. It has now a [word indistinct] authority to deal with the question. On Afghanistan, the assistant secretary general said the Islamic Conference stands for the withdrawal of foreign troops and the continuation of the nonaligned and Islamic character of the country.

Regarding the recently concluded Islamic summit at At-Ta'if, he said it had a positive outcome as it squarely faced all the issues confronting the Islamic world. Setting up of the bureau of the Islamic summit, of which President Ziaul Rahman of Bangladesh is one of the members, is a good step in the right direction. The bureau will be meeting time to time to consider important organizational issues.

On his current visit to Dacca, the OIC assistant secretary general said he has availed the opportunity to brief the Bangladesh authorities on various developments.

The director of the Islamic center for technical and vocational training and research, who was also present at the news conference, said president Ziaul Rahman will lay the foundation of the center at a simple ceremony near Dacca on the 27th of next month. Secretary General of the Islamic Conference Habib Chatti is also expected to attend the ceremony. He said the first consultative committee of the national experts will meet in the capital on the 17th of next month to formulate the curriculum and start development schemes for the center.

ANNUAL TRADE PROTOCOL WITH SOVIET UNION

BK201257 Dacca Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 20 Feb 81

[Text] Bangladesh and the Soviet Union will exchange goods worth 22 million pounds sterling each way under the 10th annual barter protocol. The new protocol registers an increase of about 30 percent over the 9th barter protocol, which provided for an exchange of goods worth 17 million pounds sterling. Besides the barter, the Soviet Union will also make an additional purchase of goods worth 4.4 million pounds sterling in the next 1 year, in repayment of the Soviet credit to Bangladesh.

The protocol was signed in Dacca this morning by Soviet Deputy Foreign Trade Minister I.T. Grishin and the Bangladesh foreign trade secretary. Under the protocol, Bangladesh will export to the Soviet Union items like raw jute, jute goods, goatskins, cowhides, finished leather, loose tea, packaged tea, wires and cables, footwear, coir fibers, jute carpets, specialized textiles, readymade garments, handicraft, tobacco, cutlery, soap and detergents. Soviet goods in exchange will include raw cotton, mild steel billets, pig iron, high-speed diesel oil, ball bearings, steel rolls, ingot molds, raw materials for general engineering and manufacturing plants.

GANDHI MEETS WITH KENYAN PRESIDENT MOI 23 FEB

BK231644 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 23 Feb 81

[Text] India has assured Kenya of its willingness to darw up programs for mutual economic cooperation. The assurance was given by Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi to President Daniel Arap Moi of Kenya at their talks in New Delhi this afternoon.

President Moi arrived in the capital this morning in the course of his 5-day visit to India. Besides bilateral relations, President Moi and Mrs Gandhi had an extensive review of the international situation. The two leaders had a private meeting lasting half an hour, which was followed by talks between full delegations of the two countries. President Moi was assisted by his ministers for foreign affairs, industry and education, while the Indian side included Commerce Minister Pranab Mukherjee and Industry Minister Dr Chanana.

The Kenyan president shared the concern expressed by Mrs Gandhi on critical international developments, including the economic crisis, the arms race and the growth of confrontation. He reiterated Kenya's commitment to the Nonaligned Movement and stressed the importance of all countries in deciding issues on merit. The nonaligned particularly must work together for peace and for the welfare of the common people. Mrs Gandhi told him about India's abiding commitment to the principles of nonalignment and said any doubts about it, as raised in press reports in some countries, are totally wrong. But this does not preclude any country from following its own national interest and being responsive to its own needs in developing relations with other countries. This should not be misunderstood.

BULGARIA'S ZHIVKOVA VISITS FOR CULTURAL TALKS

Received by Indira Gandhi

AU202042 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 2000 GMT 20 Feb 81

[Text] Prime Minister of India Indira Gandhi gave a dinner in New Delhi tonight in honor of Lyudmila Zhivkova, Bulgarian Communist Party [BCP] Central Committee Politburo member and chairman of the Committee of Culture. Opinions were exchanged in a cordial atmosphere on further developing Bulgarian-Indian relations, particularly in cultural cooperation.

Comrade Lyudmila Zhivkova conveyed cordial greetings and wishes on behalf of Todor Zhivkov, first secretary of the BCP Central Committee and Bulgarian State Council Chairman, to the leader of the Indian Government and people. Comrade Lyudmila Zhivkova also expressed gratitude for the Indian prime minister's personal contribution to the development of Bulgarian-Indian relations and for the cordial hospitality accorded the Bulgarian cultural delegation. Confidence was expressed that the delegation's visit will aid in developing and strengthening Bulgarian-Indian relations, especially in the cultural sector.

Meets With President Reddy

AU212005 Sofia BTA in English 1845 GMT 21 Feb 81

[Excerpt] Delhi, 21 Feb (BTA)--This afternoon the Indian president, Mr Neelam S. Reddy, received Mrs Zhivkova. The leader of the Bulgarian culture delegation extended cordial greetings to the Indian president from the first secretary of the BCP CC and State Council president of Bulgaria, Mr Todor Zhivkov. In a cordial atmosphere views were exchanged on Bulgaro-Indian cooperation, especially on the development of cultural ties between the two countries.

GDR DELEGATION VISITS FOR JOINT COMMISSION SESSION

Gandhi, Gerhard Weiss Meet

LD210023 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1125 GMT 20 Feb 81

[Text] Delhi, 20 Feb (ADN)--In view of complicated international developments, India and the GDR intend to further reinforce their concerted action for peace and disarmament. This was stated by both Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and GDR Council of Ministers Deputy Chairman Gerhard Weiss at a friendly meeting in Delhi on Friday. Weiss is in the Indian capital leading a GDR delegation to the fourth session of the GDR-Indian Joint Economic Commission.

In the course of the talk, concern was expressed that the international situation has worsened as a result of the policy of forces that are hostile to detente. The course geared to maximizing the arms race has begun to increasingly jeopardize the results of political detente.

In the talks, also attended by Indian Secretary of State for Industry Charanjit Chanana, the expansion and intensification of bilateral economic relations were also discussed. Mrs Gandhi paid tribute to the successful progress of the two states' friendly relations and close cooperation in politics, economy and culture, and came out in favor of their further development.

Gerhard Weiss conveyed a personal message from Erich Honecker to Indira Gandhi.

Economic Protocol Signed

LD210025 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1642 GMT 20 Feb 81

[Text] Delhi, 20 Feb (ADN)--The further expansion of their many years of economic cooperation has been agreed on by the GDR and India in the protocol of the fourth meeting of the GDR-India Joint Commission for Economic and Scientific-Technological Cooperation. It was signed in Delhi on Friday. The arrangements in this protocol are intended to implement the long-term economic agreement of January 1979.

The protocol was signed by the heads of the two countries' delegations: Gerhard Weiss, deputy chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers; and Charanjit Chanana, Indian minister of state for industry. The cochairmen of the joint commission, in brief speeches, paid tribute to the deliberations in Delhi, which were most successful. The atmosphere in the six working groups and in the plenum was very friendly and was characterized by a willingness to further develop cooperation.

During the deliberations, areas in which cooperation will be further developed were agreed upon. These detailed agreements apply to mechanical and heavy engineering, chemistry, electrical engineering and electronics, cooperation in third markets, cooperation and the exchange of experience in planning, licensing, basic research and other areas. The two sides noted that the personal contact between representatives from the GDR and India contributes greatly to promoting the mutually beneficial economic relations, which are conducted on an equal footing.

Prior to the signing, Gerhard Weiss had a talk with Indian Planning Minister N.D. Tiwari. They agreed that closer cooperation in medium and long-term planning will be most useful in further expanding economic relations. During a meeting with P.K. Mukherjee, minister of commerce, measures for the further development of trade on the basis of the long-term trade and payments agreement concluded in December 1980 were discussed.

NEGOTIATIONS WITH USSR ON OIL EXPLORATION TO BEGIN

BK240806 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 24 Feb 81

[Text] India and the Soviet Union have agreed to carry out negotiations in the near future to conclude contracts on oil exploration and also to increase oil production from shutdown and low productivity wells. This was stated by Minister for Petroleum, Chemicals and Fertilisers P.C. Sethi in the Lok Sabha today. In a written reply, he said that in accordance with the agreement on economic and technical cooperation signed in December last, the Soviet side will render cooperation to the Indian side in execution of projects in one of the promising onshore areas in the country. The area will be chosen by mutual agreement between the two sides.

FINANCE MINISTER REPORTS ON ECONOMIC SITUATION

BK231012 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0380 GMT 23 Feb 81

[Text] The prebudget economic survey indicates a further increase in agricultural and industrial production during the coming financial year. There may, however, be little relief from tight pressure.

The survey was presented to parliament by Finance Minister R. Venkataraman today. It said that the economy showed distinct signs of improvement in 1980-81, especially in the second half of the year. Industrial production has been showing noticable recovery in recent months. Food grain production is expected to be even better than the record harvest in 1978-79.

The survey refers to continued inflation and says its control will be a major objective of economic policy. The balance of payments position has worsened following further escalation in the price of imported crude oil.

According to the survey, the all commodities wholesale price index increased by 13.2 percent during 1980-81. This is substantially smaller than the 19.1 percent rise during the corresponding period of 1979-80. The price rise was confined mainly to a few commodity goods, such as cereals, pulses, oilseed and sugar. Their production was adversely affected by last year's drought.

Maintaining a buffer stock of food grain and revitalization of the public distribution system will be the major elements in stabilizing the economy. The public distribution system is handling about 11 to 12 million tons of foodgrain, 3.32 million tons of sugar, 400 million square meters of controlled cloth, 3 million tons of soft coke and 3.5 million tons of kerosene annually.

About the fiscal policy, the survey says there are indications that tax receipts in 1980-81 may be better than envisaged in the budget estimate. Public borrowings may also be larger, and capital receipts will be augmented by the proceeds of the special bearer bonds recently loated. However, the budgetary deficit in 1980-81 will be higher than estimated because of larger support to central and state plans and other additional unavoidable expenditure during the year.

The public sector undertakings fared badly during 1979-80 because of the nonavailability of power, steel, nonferrous metals, inadequate transport and port facilities, and labor relations. However, during the first 9 months of 1980-81, the output of several public sector units has shown improvement.

Referring to the difficult position regarding the balance of payments, due to a heavy oil import bill, the survey underlined the need for a massive effort in the fields of exploration and production of oil and natural gas.

ECONOMIC, CULTURAL COOPERATION AGREED ON WITH LIBYA

BK231655 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 23 Feb 81

[Text] Pakistan and Libya have agreed to further stabilize the cooperation between them on the basis of friendly relations and mutual benefit. The two countries also agreed to increase trade and to exchange trade delegations for this purpose. The two countries will develop economic cooperation. Public sector companies and consultancy organizations of Pakistan will be granted preferential treatment regarding various projects in Libya, in the fields of laying railway tracks, housing, development of water resources and power generation.

This consensus was reached following the 5-day Pakistan-Libya joint ministerial commission meeting, which concluded in Islamabad today.

The two countries also agreed that the supply of labor between the two countries will now be handled by government organizations. Pakistan-Libya holding companies will provide aid for developmental projects in both countries. Libyan personnel will be provided training facilities in Pakistani organizations dealing with civil aviation and other scientific and technical fields. Scientific and educational publications of the two countries will be exchanged and cooperation between the media organizations of the two countries will be developed. In this connection, the two countries will soon sign an agreement on cultural exchanges.

It has also been decided that a joint committee will be set up to review the pace of implementation of the agreement reached by the joint ministerial commission. The documents signed at the meeting of the two delegations include an agreement under which Pakistani workers in Libya will enjoy the same social benefits enjoyed by Libyan citizens.

The two delegations also reviewed the implementation of decisions reached at the last meeting of the commission.

The leaders of the two delegations, at the concluding session this afternoon, expressed satisfaction with the outcome of the meeting. Agha Shahi said that he hopes that the program of cooperation agreed upon at the meeting will help increase bilateral cooperation. Expressing similar feelings, (Al-Magrub) said that the existing relations of Islamic solidarity between the peoples and the governments of the two countries will continue to develop.

PIRACHA MEETS WITH INDONESIAN OFFICIALS IN JAKARTA

BK240636 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 23 Feb 81

[Text] Pakistan Foreign Secretary Riaz Piracha, who is now in Jakarta, had a meeting with Indonesian Foreign Minister Prof Mochtar Kusumaatmaja and other officials of the Department of Foreign Affairs. The Pakistan foreign secretary, who is leading an eight-member delegation, will have talks with the Indonesian officials on promoting cooperation between the two countries in trade, industry, shipping, agriculture and science.

FINANCE MINISTER REJECTS REVALUATION OF CURRENCY

BK240826 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 24 Feb 81

[Text] Federal Finance Minister Ghulam Ishaq Khan has said that no proposal on revaluating the Pakistani rupee is being contemplated. He told AP of Pakistan last night that devaluation of the Pakistani currency will not help the country's economy; in fact, it would be detrimental to it. He said all speculation in this regard is baseless.

Meanwhile, official sources have stated that the [word indistinct] report is being reviewed and that no decision has yet been made on several of its recommendations, over which experts have different views. The sources said that the report devised several steps that were formulated more than 2 years ago. Implementation of these steps have helped to improve the country's economy and the pace of economic progress. The growth rate during the fiscal year reached to 6.4 percent. The export position has also improved and considerable success has been achieved in checking the inflationary rate caused by a continuing rise in the cost of imports from industrialized nations and the imported oil. At the same time, foreign remittances are also gradually increasing. The export of basic items has also increased to a large extent.

The sources said that the government is determined to pursue the policy of the Islamic principle of justice and equitable distribution. It will not accept any conservative or any pure capitalist solution that is not applicable to the country.

DELHI CITES UPI ON POLITICAL ARRESTS IN PAKISTAN

BK240846 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 24 Feb 81

[Text] According to a UPI message from Islamabad, the martial law authorities yesterday cracked down on the Pakistan Peoples Party, arresting three of its top leaders. They are acting secretary of the party Gen Tikka Khan, president of the Punjab provincial unit of the party Aftab Sherpao, and Maj Gen Nasirullah Babar.

PAPER ON PROPOSED DIALOGUE WITH AFGHANISTAN

BK231019 Karachi DAWN in English 18 Feb 81 p 7

[Editorial: "Dialogue on Afghanistan"]

[Text] Mr Agha Shahi's statement to newsmen on his return from New Delhi is most encouraging. The foreign minister disclosed that the special representative of the UN secretary-general, Mr de Guellar, will be drawing up a programme in New York to visit a number of capitals to remove the procedural difficulties in initiating the talks between Islamabad, Tehran and Kabul. It would be most regrettable if after Kabul and Islamabad had explicitly made clear their desire to initiate a dialogue, procedural difficulties and differences on modalities should now lead to an impasse. Mr Shahi proceeded to request Dr Waldheim to designate a representative to promote a political settlement of the Afghan issue in accordance with the UN assembly resolution of November 20, only when Islamabad found that "favourable conditions existed". Moreover, President Ziaul Haq's reference at the At-Ta'if Islamic summit to "intimations of flexibility in the attitude of the Soviet Union and the Kabul regime" also indicates that the move for negotiations was not premature.

After hopes had been raised that the diplomatic stalemate on Afghanistan was about to end, it was obviously disappointing when it was disclosed by Mr Agha Shahi, last week, that Kabul had decided to backtrack. The Karmal regime's insistence that talks between Kabul and Islamabad should be on a bilateral level and the role of the UN's special representative should be that of an observer would give a different dimension to the dialogue. It would, in the first place, amount to conferring recognition on the Karmal regime, a position Pakistan finds unacceptable in view of the Organization of Islamic Conference resolutions on the issue. What is, however, significant is the volte face committed by Kabul. It does lead one to wonder whether the "intimations of flexibility" emanating from Kabul and Moscow were designed to pre-empt the At-Ta'if summit and the Nonaligned Movement Foreign Ministers' Conference from adopting a strong position on Afghanistan. [paragraph continues]

Now that both these meetings have concluded and the Karmal regime does not find itself under pressure, it has reverted to its previous line. It need hardly be pointed out that it is now time for Mr Babrak Karmal to establish his bona fides and good faith.

The question of method and procedure has an importance of its own. Pakistan's willingness to talk to a representative of the ruling People's Democratic Party, even though it is to be under the aegis of the United Nations, is a major move the importance of which should not be underestimated. Moreover, Mr Agha Shahi's decision to go ahead in New Delhi with his request to Dr. Waldheim to appoint his representative even though the prospects of a dialogue had become bleak goes to underline Pakistan's keenness to seek a political settlement. Islamabad's desire to promote a solution is also evident from Mr Shahi's latest offer to allow a UN observer group or a contingent of the non-aligned or Islamic countries to supervise its borders with Afghanistan. On its part Kabul has not ruled out peaceful negotiations either. Mr Shah Mohammad Dost met Mr de Cuellar in New Delhi and the Afghan Government in power has on two occasions publicly renounced its territorial claims against Pakistan. But by themselves these overtures are not sufficient. If Kabul is sincere in its quest for a peaceful settlement, it will be expected to display more flexibility on the question of modalities and procedures in order to find a meeting point with Pakistan. Right at present Mr de Cuellar's may seem a mission impossible, but it is not right yet to give up hope.

KARACHI COMMENTATOR REFUTES KARMAL'S REMARKS

BK220947 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1715 GMT 21 Feb 81

[Fazal Qureshi Commentary]

[Text] The latest figures released by the United Nations commissioner for refugees, whose office is in Ceneva, show that the number of Afghan people fleeing their country to seek shelter in Pakistan is rising steadily. According to these figures, the number of refugees has now topped 1.5 million. It said that last month alone, about 143,000 new refugees arrived in Pakistan and were registered. The majority of the refugees, that is about 1.2 million, are located in the Northwest Frontier Province, while the rest are in Baluchistan Province.

These figures and the continuing heavy flow of refugees into Pakistan draw attention to two important aspects of the problem. Firstly, it indicates that the fighting inside Afghanistan is on the increase and the Soviet troops are engaged in a massive operation in their unsuccessful attempt to crush the popular resistance against the Babrak Karmal regime and the Marxist ideology. And secondly, the economic burden of these refugees on Pakistan's ecoromy is increasing with every passing day and must be noted by international agencies and foreign governments sympathetic to the plight of the Afghan people. They must come forward with greater assistance for providing the basic minimum necessities to these helpless people, men and children [as heard], who had to leave their homeland because their life and honor was not safe there.

In the light of this further manifestation of turmoil inside Afghanistan, it is a pity that the country's Soviet-installed ruler, Babrak Karmal, should declare in Moscow that the trouble inside his country was the creation of what he called bandits and robbers. Addressing a press conference in Moscow yesterday, Mr Karmal tried to play down the situation in his country by describing it as being a dispute between Afghanistan, Pakistan and Iran, and rejected the French proposal of an international conference on Afghanistan on the grounds that it was not an international problem. He also said that the number of Soviet troops inside Afghanistan was much smaller than stated by what he called propaganda machinery of the West and claimed that the Soviet troops had been brought in to save the country from foreign aggression. He also repeated the often declared line of Moscow and Kabul that the Soviet troops will leave as soon as aggression against Afghanistan ceased.

The statements of Mr Babrak Karmal are so far from truth that possibly even he would find it difficult to digest them. At least the world community does not accept them. The true nature of the mission of Soviet troops inside Afghanistan is well known to the entire world. The United Nations General Assembly has twice demanded the unconditional withdrawal of Soviet troops with an overwhelming majority of votes--111 in November 1980. The Islamic foreign ministers conference and the recently held Islamic summit in At-Ta'if clearly expressed their sympathy and support for the valiant Afghan freedom fighters battling for the freedom and independence of their homeland. Even the recently concluded Nonaligned Conference made a call for the withdrawal of foreign troops and the restoration of Afghanistan's independent, nonaligned status despite the (?fierce) efforts of the pro-Soviet countries to block such a resolution.

All these international verdicts on the Afghanistan situation, however, do not seem to be having any [effect] on the Babrak Karmal regime. In Moscow, he even went to the extent of describing the refugees as nomads who were being prevented from returning to their homes by Pakistan and Iran. It does not bother Kabul a bit to know that the camps of these so-called nomads are open to visits by international dignitaries and delegates, and that not only are these people staying, but more and more of them are fleeing their homeland to swell their ranks.

The rate of exodus out of Afghanistan, as stated by the office of the UN high commissioner for refugees, is as high as 143,000 a month. In fact, the propaganda of the Kabul regime is self-defeating. If conditions were so peaceful in Afghanistan and if the people were so happy with the Babrak Karmal regime, instead of these refugees it should be the Soviet troops who should have been leaving Afghanistan.

BHUTTO'S WIDOW, DAUGHTER BANNED FROM PROVINCE

BK221349 Hong Kong AFP in English 1310 GMT 22 Feb 8.

[Text] Karachi, Pakistan, 22 Feb (AFP)--Police today banned Benazir Bhutto, 28-year-old daughter of executed former Prime Minister Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto, from entering the North-Western Frontier Province (NWFP) where student unrest and disturbances were reported for the past few days.

Police failed to serve similar orders on Begum Nusrat Bhutto, widow of the hanged premier and leader of the banned Pakistan People's Party, as she had left for the province, sources close to family said.

The orders, which last for 90 days, were served under the maintenance of public order ordinance at the Bhutto's seaside home here late today.

Miss Bhutto was accused of contacting leaders of defunct political parties in order to form a "greater alliance" of political parties opposed to the government.

The sources added that Miss Bhutto would defy the banning orders. Mrs Bhutto and her daughter were to leave for Peshawar, capital of NWFP, later today to see students injured in clashes with the police there yesterday.

Police had earlier served similar orders on Sardar Sherbaz Mazari, president of the banned National Democratic Party, a component of the nine-party Movement of Restoration of Democracy (MRD).

KHOMEYNI ADDRESSES POLICE PERSONNEL IN TEHRAN

LD231744 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 23 Feb 81

[Address by Ayatollah Khomeyni to police officers at Hoseyniyeh Jamaran on 23 February--recorded, duration 41 minutes]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. I would like to have a word today with you, gentlemen, dear ones, who, as reported, have come from various parts of the country and who include chiefs of police precincts and departments. Later I will say a few words about matters in which all should be involved. You know that your position and that of all other dear ones working throughout the country to maintain order in cities is different from what it was under the satanical rule. In those days, the nation looked at the police in a different way. Today, the nation looks at the police in a favorable, brotherly, friendly way, and the nation supports you.

You should safeguard inner cities. The nation is on your side today and supports you. With the nation's support, you can stop those troubles that occasionally occur in the cities, first by means of advice, otherwise with force. Regarding those who want to cause disruption at affairs, whether when speeches are being delivered by notable individuals or at meetings that take place with the authority of the interior minister, you should be vigilant and the guards corpsmen in the cities should be in harmony with you to see to it that troublemakers do not infiltrate a crowd and cause clashes or trouble for the people in the street.

Under the law, you and the guards corpsmen in the cities are dutybound to act so that clashes and incited troubles that weaken the forces and cause disruption of forces--something that is being done in a premeditated manner--do not take place. The people should support you in this. Such things should be prevented forcefully, with firmness and with the support of all of the people, so that the people can get on with their jobs in a calm environment. Some of these troublemakers who engage in acts of terrorism, in blowing up things here and there, should be identified, pursued and handed over to courts, and the courts should punish them in accordance with the severe punishment that Islam has prescribed. My brothers, you are now the brothers of the population of the country, and your country is exposed today to infidels and troublemakers who want to disrupt this Islamic Republic, notwithstanding the fact that, God willing, they cannot do so. [shouts of "God willing"]

Today, there exists one objective common to you all, one desirable thing common to you all: The safeguarding of Islam itself. In such a situation, confrontation between certain groups--particularly armed groups, military and security groups--will cause great trouble, will cause, God forbid, cohesion to be lost; once cohesion is gone there will certainly be harm. You are all dutybound, together, and with other members of the armed forces, to be at one and united with one another, particularly at this exceptional time, in which all of us, all of you, all individuals in the country are dutybound, with coordination, to block the foreigners and those who want to bring about the old problems once again and, God forbid, take our country back to its original situation and destroy everything we have. You should know that if, God forbid, this Islamic Republic were defeated, this would be a defeat for all Muslims throughout the ages.

All of the armed forces should be united; each section should not imagine that it operates as an independent entity. Today, in this exceptional situation, we should all form one single group--a strikeforce against superpowers.

I hope you will succeed in bringing about complete order and discipline in the towns, in preventing disorder and troubles with full authority. Those of you who are at the front--something that in this exceptional situation all must do--should, to the extent necessary, be coordinated there, so that, God willing, we will soon achieve the final victory: happiness for the whole nation in this world and the next.

This is what I say to all of the armed forces. At a time when we are busy fighting along the borders and at a time when our friends, our loved ones are engaged in self-sacrifice, distinctions should not be made as to who is a guard, a member of the gendarmerie, a member of the armed forces, or a member of the police force. The raising of such an issue at such an exceptional time is wrong. I have heard that some members of the fifth column arrive at the borders and attempt to split the groups there. They try to separate the guards corps from other forces. They go among them and say certain things about the armed forces. They also wish to separate the armed forces from the guards. They go among the armed forces and say certain things against the gaurds corps. The guards corps, the armed forces, the gendarmerie and police force and all other groups are together and should not pay any attention to conspiracies being hatched with the aim of disruption. At a time when our loved ones are sacrificing themselves along our borders, if such rumors are spread there claiming, for instance, that the guards are doing this and that which is contrary to army discipline or whereby the armed forces have such and such designs and wish to put these people against one another, you should recognize this as a blow the aliens wish to deliver at us through their hands both inside and outside the country. You, dear youths, who are busy sacrificing yourselves and are committed and devoted to Islam, should know that a word of dissension among you, between the armed forces, putting one force against another, is a satanical plan of the great powers that, in appearance, is being carried out by the hands of corrupt individuals who, unfortunately, have penetrated many places. If this plan is implemented, God forbid, neither you, the guards nor the country will be spared. You should be vigilant and should not pay attention to such rumors.

One of the things I regard as necessary for all of the armed forces is noninterference in political issues. You are honest, sincere and pure-hearted individuals and some of the politicized people who have penetrated certain places on behalf of the foreigners are satanical individuals who wish to make you participate in satanical policies and to create dissension among you. You should keep yourselves aloof from such issues and should never lean toward one group. All of you are the forces of the Lord of the age and all of you belong to one party--this party is the army of the Lord of the age, the forces of God. You should pay no attention to the issues being raised among you. If all of you unite and act in harmony, if all forces act in harmony, if all weapons are put at the disposal of all of the forces, if all of you fight together, and if there are no differences between the armed forces and other forces, then your victory will be close. [shouts of "God willing"]

I also wish to say a word to writers and orators. What I wish to say is that all of you and the entire nation know that all of us should try to create unity, should try to create harmony among the various groups and wings. I should say that some tongues are worse than clubs. Club wielding was one of the worst things that came into being toward the end of the reign of Mohammad Reza; he had grown weak and wished to strengthen himself by means of clubs. After and during the revolution the same clubs were used again. Even in the Qom religious seminary, they broke the windows in streets and alleys and they thought that they could achieve something by means of clubs.

The same issue still exists; except that the clubs of tongue and pen are the worst kind, clubs whose harmful effect is hundreds of times worse than that of other clubs. Those who wish to speak--in the past few days there have been many of them--should pay attention to the fact that before speaking they should sit and think and see whether their tongue is a club that is going to be used against the head or the hands of someone else, or whether their tongue is one of grace and is to be used for the sake of unity.

They should be able to have control over their tongues to ensure that the devil does not rule over them and their tongues, making their words into clubs and weapons sharper than Saddam's weapons. Those who wish to speak should see whether they speak for the sake of truth. The greatest goal one may achieve is to have sought truth for the sake of truth itself. One should like truth because it is truth and should shun falsehood because it is falsehood. If truth is performed, even by the hand of his enemy, he should have self-control enough to be able to praise that truth; if falsehood reveals itself in his children or in his friends, he should have sufficient self-control to shun it and to express his hatred for it. Those who seek the truth for the sake of truth are very few; and those who shun and hate falsehood because it is falsehood are very few.

My brothers: You should pay attention, because if, God forbid, in your words and in your writings there are certain things that create dissension, if in your imagination you think that you wish to suppress your enemies or your rivals and if these remarks cause the armed forces to be disheartened or cause the guards corps or policemen to be disheartened, and if this leads to certain deaths because they are disheartened, you have participated in that death. You are partners in that death. You should make sure that your pens are not partners with the daggers that are aimed at us from behind. [shouts of "God is great"] You should make sure that your tongues and your pens are not like clubs; and then with the same pens, write that clubs are evil. You should make sure that your tongues and your pens are not machineguns, which pierce the hearts of our youths, and then say that you have been attacked. You are also their partners. Before making your speeches, before writing articles and before writing big headlines, you should look into yourselves and see why you are doing it, what your aim is. Are you seeking truth because it is truth, or do you not accept truth from your rivals? Do you shun falsehood because it is falsehood, or do you accept falsehood in your friends? You should test yourselves.

KHOMEYNI RECEIVES GUIDANCE MINISTER, DEPUTIES

GF241129 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 24 Feb 81

[Text] The leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Imam Khomeyni, received Islamic Guidance Minister 'Abbas Duzduzani, who was accompanied by the pilgrimage organization's supervisor, today.

The nation's imam also received Majlis Deputies Hojjat ol-Eslam Sheykh Mohammad Yazdi, brother 'Askar Avladi and Hojjat ol-Eslam Movahedi-Kermani separately today.

Imam Khomeyni also received Majlis Deputies Mehdi Bazargan, Dr Yadollah Shehadeh, Dr Ibrahim Yazdi, Hashem Sabbaghian and other Majlis members.

KHOMEYNI RECEIVES CHAMRAN, ARAB POETS 23 FEB

GF231142 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 23 Feb 81

[Text] The leader of the nation and founder of the Islamic Republic, Imam Khomeyni, received Mostafa Chamran, the imam's representative in the Supreme Defense Council, today.

Imam Khomeyni, leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, also received in Hoseyniyeh Jamaran today a group of Iranian Arab poets and orators from Khuzestan, who recently concluded a seminar in Shiraz.

NABAVI: LABOR UNREST WILL NOT BE TOLERATED

LD240948 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2205 GMT 23 Feb 81

[Interview with Behzad Nabavi, minister of state for executive affairs and government spokesman, conducted by unidentified correspondent on 23 February--recorded]

[Excerpts] [Correspondent] We have asked Mr Behzad Nabavi, minister of state for executive affairs and government spokesman, to brief us on the outcome of today's meeting on the budget at the Prime Ministry:

[Nabavi] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The meeting, which started this morning and which is still in progress, (?is for discussion of the budget). Our purpose, in view of the war situation, is to plan next year's budget in a way that will enable us to shoulder the war expenditures, as well as to increase development budgets. We hope, God willing, with the presentation of a balanced budget, to be able to execute our duties.

[Question] What practical steps has the government taken to combat inflation?

[Answer] What you mean in fact is the high cost of living. Incidentally, we have been following this very issue closely in the economic mobilization headquarters for a week now. We have discovered its roots and causes and we are trying to eliminate them.

The government has decided to freeze the prices of goods of which there are market shortages. We have reviewed 20 such commodities and in 2 weeks we will reveal the outcome of this review. In practice, the prices of these essential public commodities will be controlled by the government. The government, at the very least, will not allow any increase in the prices of these commodities and they will be provided to the public at a set price; in some cases they may be rationed. This will contribute to reducing the prices of other commodities.

Another issue concerns profiteering. The government is determined to combat it, but it cannot achieve its objective unless the public cooperates. The public should avoid purchasing any goods they consider to be exorbitant and should report those who ask exorbitant prices.

[Question] Mr Nabavi, we had a report today that bus company employees in one or two parts in the capital had stopped work. It said that the action was taken because the employees had not been given a New Year's bonus. May we have your comment on this topic?

[Answer] I have to express my regret that this has occurred in circumstances in which we have 1 and 1/2 million war refugees as a result of the war imposed by Iraq, and 500,000 Afghan immigrants living in our country, the responsibility for whom falls on the government, and in a situation in which our economic institutions and products have been paralyzed because of war--for example, concerning kerosene, gas and gasoline--and in a situation in which the war has caused oil production and exports to be reduced. We expect cooperation, sacrifices and tolerance from the public. If they cannot give us their cooperation and tolerance, they should at least be considerate. It seems very strange that under such circumstances our brothers are asking for a New Year's bonus.

Our brothers should bear in mind that, as a result of the war, we will have an extra expenditure of 40 billion tomans next year. You and I may not even be able to comprehend this. Forty billion tomans will in fact constitute one-sixth of the budget. One-sixth of the total budget is for war expenses, expenses for construction in the war region, refugees' needs, and Red Crescent expenditures.

Under such circumstances, one should not make requests and, God forbid, one should not be influenced by those who are pursuing political aims and go on strike. Aims that could not be achieved through Saddam's war--they could not bring down the Government of the Islamic Republic--are now being pursued through the creation of internal crises, strikes and chaos in the society. Actions are being taken to achieve the aims that the United States has against our revolution. We must not be deceived and we must remain vigilant to avoid harming our revolution for the sake of a wage increase. We must not damage our entire revolution for the sake of a New Year's allowance.

I would like to warn all of my compatriots not to be deceived by these provocations. We realize that there may be some material and economic hardships. Nevertheless, we did not stage our revolution in order to receive more wages. We should know that for years to come we will be under pressure from the United States and other superpowers. We will not be able to satisfy some people's demands. The public should remain vigilant. There are people who are provoking and encouraging strikes and chaos. These people are definitely counterrevolutionary elements [words indistinct] we have sufficient information that these elements have long been working to prepare the ground for strikes in the United Bus Company of Tehran. We had this information [words indistinct] and our brothers should remain vigilant and our press should also be careful not to oppose the government and thereby provide a base for the United States, the counterrevolutionaries and our enemies.

This is precisely a U.S. design. It happened in Chile--strikes by this or that gorup in order to bring down the government.

[Question] How will the government react to these problems?

[Answer] As we have already announced [passage indistinct] those whose salary is 6,000 tomans will receive only 1,000 tomans as a New Year's allowance. We do not have any more money to pay, nor is it advisable to do so. Naturally, the United Bus Company and any other institution should pay attention and implement the government's policy. The government is standing firm on this and we request our brothers in the United Bus Company to return to work. Should they fail to do so, we will take appropriate action. A large number of our brothers from every corner of the country contacted us by phone today and expressed their readiness to opeate the buses. Nearly 500 people from Dezful have declared their willingness, as have 2,000 from other cities. There are sufficient drivers and the public is even willing to walk to work and to tolerate inconvenience. The government will not mind if civil servants arrive late for work. If necessary, it will even consider the closure of departments. The government will not give in to pressure in any way. Our brothers should bear in mind that the time is not suitable to raise such an issue. They should judge for themselves and find out if the current situation is suitable to ask for such things [words indistinct].

Finally, if the gentlemen do return to work tomorrow, that will be considered ideal. Information I have received makes me feel certain that many of our brothers have decided that they do want to return to work. Therefore, there will be no issue to resolve. If there is any further problem, the government will have no choice but to ask the public for help and to adopt a firm stand on the issue.

TEHRAN BUS DRIVERS DEMAND BONUS PAYMENTS

LD231210 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0630 GMT 23 Feb 81

[Text] Following a protest by drivers of the Tehran and Suburbs United Bus Company this morning over the delay in bonus payments and New Year allowances, PARS reported that Tehran Mayor Nikravesh contacted the protesting drivers and resolved the problem, with all of the drivers returning to work. The mayor added: It is regrettable that at a time when our young men are sacrificing their lives on the battlefronts, a number of people disrupt society to protest delay in bonus payments.

Mayor Denies Report

LD231212 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0730 GMT 23 Feb 81

[Text] In a telephone interview with the Voice and Vision, the mayor of Tehran denied a report carried by PARS concerning the return to work of drivers of the Tehran and Suburbs United Bus Company and pointed out that other drivers are working normally.

Resumption of Services

LD241020 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0730 GMT 24 Feb 81

[Text] The Central News Bureau reports that the following statement was released by the Tehran and Suburbs United Bus Company a few minutes ago:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. We thank the Muslim and faithful citizens of Tehran who have helped the continuation of the Islamic revolution with their revolutionary patience. They are hereby informed that the bus drivers of the third district of the United Bus Company of Tehran, having discovered the conspiracies of the counterrevolutionaries and having denounced them, apologize for the delay in their services and announce that they are again at the service of the dear citizens.

[Signed] The Tehran and Suburbs United Bus Company

OIL MINISTRY DENIES RUMORS OF DISCOUNTS, SALES

LD231157 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 23 Feb 81

[Text] The Oil Ministry spokesman, in a contact with the Central News Bureau, announced that some ill-intentioned foreign papers and agencies, probably assisted by and receiving orders from Zionist and imperialist sources, have been spreading false rumors about Iran's oil industry, such as giving discounts to crude-oil clients. Although in many cases the necessary explanations have been given to oil industry publications, nevertheless the above-mentioned rumors persist. Therefore, in order to clarify any doubts and to inform the dear Muslim compatriots, the following points are brought to your attention:

1. In these critical times, when a part of our dear country has been invaded by the mercenary Government of Iraq, the Ministry of Oil refuses to publish current information on operations and oil contracts in order to prevent any misuse by the enemy or its allies.

2. Due to the geographical position of Iran's ports, and because these ports are situated in regions that have been declared war areas by the Iranian Navy, and also because this area is carefully controlled by the brave forces of Islam, the Ministry of Oil of the Islamic Republic of Iran does not consider publication of information on Iran's oil permissible under present circumstances.

3. Oil transactions on the world level remain the monopoly of international oil companies, and Iran's liberation from these international monopolies as a result of the glorious Islamic revolution of Iran and Iran's achievements in this respect might become a model and guide for other oil-producing countries. Naturally, this has given the multinational companies and their countries cause to worry, since they fear large financial losses.

4. The news disseminated about discounts and oil sales to banned countries are sheer lies.

5. As repeatedly mentioned before, one of the main effects of the Islamic revolution in Iran has been an end of the unrestrained increase in oil production and its sale at the lowest prices. Iran has succeeded not only in securing the highest possible price for its oil but, as a result of the Islamic revolution of Iran, during the past 2 years the official OPEC price and the price of oil in international transactions has increased from $13 a barrel before the revolution to about $37 a barrel at present--in other words, it has tripled.

BANI-SADR CHAIRS MEETING ON MILITARY OPERATIONS

GF240700 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 24 Feb 81

[Text] The general situation on the fronts in the war imposed on the Islamic Republic of Iran by the aggressor Iraqi regime was discussed at a session chaired by the president and armed forces commander in chief, Abolhasan Bani-Sadr. General Fallahi, acting army chief of staff; Colonel Foruzan, commander of the gendarmerie forces; Dr Mostafa Chamran, the imam's representative on the Supreme Defense Council; and military commanders from the battlefronts attended the meeting.

According to PARS, they discussed reports on the operations that the heroes of the army, the brave revolution guards and the valiant mobilization forces are conducting against aggressors opposing the land of Islam and the Islamic revolution.

TIMETABLE OF FORTHCOMING BANI-SADR SPEECHES

LD221124 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 22 Feb 81

[Text] According to PARS, the office of the president has issued an announcement concerning forthcoming speeches by Dr Seyyed Abolhasan Bani-Sadr. On the basis of this announcement, the following is the timetable of the speeches:

Thursday, 5 March at 1500, at the University of Tehran, on the occasion of the anniversary of the death of Dr Mossadeq. In explaining this particular program, it is said that since Ahmadabad [where Dr Mossadeq spent his final years under house arrest] lands are under cultivation, no speeches will be made at his graveside, contrary to what had been announced earlier.

Friday, 20 March, just before the turn of the year [the Iranian New Year does not begin at midnight but varies from year to year] in Mashhad.

Wednesday, 1 April, at Azadi Square in Tehran, on the occasion of the anniversary of the Islamic Republic. The announcement adds that more details will be made available later.

RAFSANJANI QUESTIONED ON PALME PEACE MISSION

GF241011 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 24 Feb 81

[Text] [Words indistinct] to local and foreign correspondents. Answering a question on the visit of Olof Palme, Kurt Waldheim's personal envoy, Rafsanjani said: This visit and Palme's talks with Iranian officials have not affected the firm stand of the Islamic Republic of Iran on Waldheim's initiative of sending a delegate to Iran. Rafsanjani added: We told Olof Palme that he had not brought anything new in his visit and that our stand has not changed--no negotiations before an Iraqi withdrawal.

The Majlis speaker continued: Palme said Saddam became embroiled by launching a war against Iran and is now looking for a way out of this imbroglio and the problems he will face with the Iraqi people. Therefore, he is seeking to achieve gains within this framework.

With regard to filling the vacant ministerial portfolios in brother Raja'i's government, Hojjat ol-Eslam Rafsanjani said: Imam Khomeyni asserted a few days ago that the issue will be concluded soon and that the formation of the government will be completed and new ministers will be appointed.

Answering a question on efforts to conclude a security pact in the Persian Gulf and Iran's stand on such a treaty, Rafsanjani said: We know that such moves are not sound. Who is such a threat to them that they must conclude a military treaty to resist such a power? Iran and other countries in the region have declared that they will not commit aggression against others. As long as this matter remains confined to this area, there is no harm in it. However, if it should lead to the creation of a foothold for the United States or the Soviet Union, it will pose a serious threat. Naturally, our reaction will also be serious.

HASHEMI MEETS WITH CUBAN AMBASSADOR IN TEHRAN

LD231800 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 23 Feb 81

[Text] According to a PARS report, the Cuban ambassador to Tehran met and conferred with Mr Mohammad Hashemi, the prime minister's political adviser, at noon today.

The Cuban envoy told Mr Hashemi that a select committee of the Nonaligned Movement Foreign Ministers Conference wished to travel to Iran to review ways of ending the Iraqi-imposed war against Iran.

In reply, Mr Hashemi said that since issues relating to the Iraqi-imposed war against Iran are within the responsibility of the Supreme Defense Council, he will communicate the message to the council.

Mr Hashemi added: Nevertheless, the Iranian Government's view remains the same as has already been announced.

Asked by the Cuban envoy for any message that he might have for the select committee, Mr Hashemi replied: As was stated by the Iranian delegation in the New Delhi conference, I too stress that the committee ought to investigate the Iraqi aggression against Iran, condemn the aggressor and call for its suspension from the movement.

RAJA'I MEETS WITH VISITING LIBYAN DELEGATION

LD201610 Tripoli JANA in English 1429 GMT 20 Feb 81

[Text] Tripoli, 20 Feb (JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY)--The Libyan Arab people's delegation, currently visiting Iran last night, met with Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i, Iranian prime minister.

Talks concentrated on enhancing bilateral relations and both views on all issues discussed were identical. Mr Raja'i expressed his gratitude towards the Jamahiriyah's support to the Iranian Islamic revolution and conveyed his greetings and appreciation to Colonel al-Qadhdhafi for his support for Islam and Muslims in the world.

The Libyan delegation extended an invitation to Prime Minister Raja'i to visit the Jamahiriyah.

OFFICIAL THANKS LIBYAN ENVOY FOR SUPPORT

GF240527 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 24 Feb 81

[Text] Sa'd Mujbir, secretary of the Libyan People's Bureau in Iran, met with the assistant commerce minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran yesterday. The assistant commerce minister expressed his gratitude for Libya's support for the Islamic revolution and said: The Islamic Republic of Iran supports all countries seeking to achieve independence from the East or West.

He added: The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran wants to expand and strengthen its multifaceted relations with Muslim countries having common ideologies.

The assistant commerce minister said he hopes an Islamic common market will be formed in the near future, in accordance with Islamic economies, and with the Muslim countries' participation.

Brother Sa'd Mujbir declared the full support of the Libyan Government and people for the Islamic revolution's aims and said: Muslims have common goals. They should quickly arm themselves with the weapon of faith--dependence on God and the Koran--and should save themselves and all the world's oppressed from control by exploiters in the East and West.

Brother Sa'd Mujbir reaffirmed his country's readiness to expand its multifaceted relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran, particularly in the economic and commercial fields.

NOBARI COMMENTS ON U.S. NONRETURN OF ASSETS

NC240915 Paris AFP in English 0908 GMT 24 Feb 81

[Text] Tehran, 24 Feb (AFP)--The United States had not returned a "penny of Iranian assets" frozen in U.S. banks, the governor of the Central Bank, 'Ali Reza Nobari, said in a press statement published today.

"Not a penny will be transfered before February 27, and we will receive our assets progressively," he added.

"In some aspects", the Reagan administration had not respected the Algiers agreement which unfroze Iranian assets and led to the release of the U.S. embassy hostages. There were still "divergences between Iran and the United States," he added.

"It was understood that after the liberation of the hostages, the United States should unfreeze and return Iranian assets" held in banks in the U.S. and abroad, Mr Nobari said.

But the Reagan administration has not "made a single step in that direction" nor had it released weapons already paid for, he said.

"U.S. civil servants have simply said the money will be returned, but not the arms," Mr Nobari concluded.

UK PAPER INTERVIEWS DETAINED MISSIONARIES

LD231501 London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 23 Feb 81 pp 1, 30

[Amit Roy dispatch: "Missionaries Laugh Off Iran Captivity"]

[Excerpts] Tehran--The three detained British missionaries who are shortly to be released by Iran talked to me yesterday about their detention in their first interview with a journalist since their arrest.

One of them, Miss Jean Waddell, 58, laughed when I asked her what life at Evin Prison had been like.

"You would not believe this," she said in her soft voice, "but to me, when I first went there, it was almost like a boarding school."

Seated next to her were the two other British missionaries, Dr John Coleman and his wife, Audrey, both 58--who are also to fly back to Britain, possibly this week.

Like Miss Waddell they said they felt no bitterness despite having been imprisoned on the basis of what later turned out to be false documents.

I was taken to meet the three Britons in an army vehicle with darkened windows, so that I would not know the location of the house where they are being held.

My interview took place in a spacious chandelier-lit room with Mr Waite present.

I did not meet Mr Andrew Pyke, the British businessman detained in Iran.

Mr Terry Waite, a special emissary of the archbishop of Canterbury, said: "I was told his case is different from the case of the Anglican missionaries. I don't know the details of his case."

Dr Coleman, who read the Bible five and a half times during his detention, assured me: "Bitterness has never come into it. As a Christian, one feels one is in the hands of God."

He explained: "When you love a people, you realize mistakes can occur."

The "only cloud" was that the Iranian authorities told them they would not be allowed to return to Iran for their own safety.

Dr Coleman, who first came to Iran with his wife in 1948--three of their children were born in Tehran--emphasized "we have known Iran for 32 years. Revolutions come and revolutions go. You will never change basic, lovely Iranian kindness and hospitality."

Since a revolutionary guard was present, I asked whether the Britons would tell a substantially different tale when they were released.

"I trust not," said Dr Coleman, "because I hope we have told the truth now and we will tell the truth again."

All three appeared to be in good health, with Mrs Coleman looking the most relaxed, even happy.

She said: "We were very well treated."

Dr Coleman said: "We were able to have our 34th wedding anniversary together. We were able to have a cake and invite some of the revolutionary soldiers.

"We regard these revolutionary soldiers like our own sons. My wife used to mend their clothes and many of them were in tears when we left the prison. One boy was literally sobbing.

"We can, of course, speak Persian which does make a lot of difference."

Mr Waite said: "I hope the whole matter can be cleared up so that the relationship not only between the Anglican Church and the Iranian authorities can be put on a proper basis, but the relationship between this country and the West can also be put on a basis."

He added: "Given a period of time it may be that the Colemans would be able to return."

Dr Coleman cut in: "This is our home."

Along with the three Britons, four Iranian Anglicans have also been cleared and are being released.

Mr Waite said: "The British press has not reported that and I would like that reported."

The four Iranians were present last night during the interview.

KHAMENE'I MEETS WITH INDIAN FOREIGN MINISTER

GF221136 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 22 Feb 81

[Text] The correspondent of the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran has reported from Hyderabad that the Tehran Friday imam and leader of the Islamic revolution's delegation to India met yesterday with the Indian foreign minister and explained the characteristics and goals of the Islamic revolution in Iran.

During the meeting, the Indian foreign minister said: We pay great respect and attention to your revolution, because we know that there is a philosophy behind every revolution. He added: Every time we study a book or a report on Islamic philosophy, we find that we have begun learning and we have the desire to spread this knowledge. We must work together to propagate this philosophy. Hojjat ol-Eslam val Moslemin Khamene'i replied: Right from the beginning the Islamic revolution in Iran raised the banner of independence, freedom and the Islamic Republic, and these conceptions are understood by all-freedom-loving peoples, free people, as well as the liberty-usurping tyrannical powers. Hojjat ol-Eslam Khamene'i told the Indian foreign minister: As a people with a history of thousands of years, you fully understand the sublime spirit of Islam, which is in fact the philosophy of the Islamic revolution in Iran. This Islamic spirit means reformation, prosperity, equality and man's totality. But regrettably, the world's media campaigns shrouded these conceptions with a [word indistinct] cover. He added: I want to ask what sin have these 36 million people--who want to live freely and independently and in accordance with Islamic thought and belief--committed, to be maligned by the powers of hegemony and world domination to such an extent? Finally, the Indian foreign minister expressed hope for the promotion of bilateral economic and cultural relations.

Earlier, Hojjat ol-Eslam Khamene'i had left for Hyderabad to participate in the Islamic conference and (?Imams) of India and to attend the celebrations of the 15th regira century as part of his visit to India, intended to explain the goals of the Islamic revolution and its stand, which is based on "neither Eastern nor Western," and also to reveal the Iraqi regime's crimes committed in the war it imposed on the Islamic revolution in Iran and its aggression on the land of Islam.

KHAMENE'I ATTENDS HYDERABAD MUSLIM CONFERENCE

GF240542 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 24 Feb 81

[Text] The Islamic revolution delegation led by Tehran Friday Imam Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Khamene'i returned to New Delhi yesterday, following participation in the All-India Muslim Conference in Hyderabad on the anniversary of the Prophet Mohammad's flight from Mecca to Medina.

During his 2-day stay in Hyderabad, the delegation leader addressed a mammoth rally attended by more than 150,000 people. His eminence also chaired one of the conference's sessions, which ended with the conferees chanting slogans saluting the Islamic revolution and its leader, Imam Khomeyni, and denouncing Saddam.

During his stay in Hyderabad, Hojjat ol-Eslam Khamene'i also held several meetings with Indian Muslim ulema who came to the city from all parts of India to participate in the conference. They included Imam Mohammad Yousef, the Muslim mufti of India. Khamene'i talked to them about the characteristics and goals of the Islamic revolution of Iran, stressing the need for Muslims and the oppressed to rise against international arrogance and exploitation.

ACTIVITIES OF DELEGATION IN LEBANON REPORTED

GF231615 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 23 Feb 81

[Text] The Iranian delegation led by brother Jalaleddin Farsi arrived in Damascus from Beirut today. So far, the delegation has visited the Soviet Union and Lebanon, to explain the stands and goals of the Islamic revolution in Iran.

At the conclusion of its visit to Lebanon yesterday, the Iranian delegation held a press conference in Beirut. Brother Farsi said that the war imposed on us by the agent Iraqi regime will be lengthy. The head of the Iranian delegation added that Iran does not need to purchase arms from other countries; we have enough arms now and our factories are continuing to produce arms.

Brother Jalaleddin Farsi described Iran's relations with the Palestinian revolution as fraternal. Yesterday morning the Iranian delegation visited Tyre in southern Lebanon and inspected the effects of the continuing Zionist attacks on that city. The Iranian delegation also inspected the Islamic Studies Foundation established by Imam as-Sadr, which was recently subjected to Zionist artillery shelling.

In addition, the Iranian delegation toured the vocational foundation in Jabal 'Amil, in the Al-Burj ash-Shamali region. It was given a warm welcome by the teachers and students of the foundation. One of the foundation's employees delivered a speech in which he stressed the historical and spiritual solidarity between Iran and Jabal 'Amil. He said the Amal movement in Jabal 'Amil and the Islamic revolution in Iran are parts of a single revolution. He added: We are ready to put all of our material and moral resources at the disposal of the Islamic Republic of Iran and hope that, with your aid and support, we will be able to crush the Zionist enemy and his mercenaries in Lebanon and raise the banner of Islam, just as you were able to topple the devil.

The Iranian delegation attended a lecture on the Islamic ideology of new Amal movement cadres in Tyre. Brother Jalaleddin Farsi delivered a speech on unity and the united classless society in the Islamic government.

Our correspondent in Beirut reported that at the same time Israeli warplanes were flying over Tyre at low altitude.

Brother Farsi and the delegation also inspected Palestinian refugee camps in Al-Burj ash-Shamali and Ar-Rashidiyyah. On this occasion, brother Jalaleddin Farsi spoke with a number of Palestinian brothers in the Palestinian resistance movement on the refugee situation and on the situation in southern Lebanon, as well as on relations between the Palestinian revolution and Iran's Islamic revolution.

IRANIAN CHARGE ADDRESSES ISLAMABAD MEETING

GF201717 Tehran International Service in Urdu 1330 GMT 20 Feb 81

[Text] PARS reports that Anjuman-i-jan Nisaran-i-ahle Bait [religious organization] has held a grand meeting in Islamabad, the capital of Pakistan, to celebrate the advent of the 3d year of the Islamic revolution in Iran. The ceremony was attended by the teachers, students, religious leaders and the elite of the city. A Sunni leader, speaking on the occasion, threw light on the success of the Islamic revolution of Iran and condemned the false propaganda against the revolution. He emphasized that the Islamic revolution of Iran concerns all Muslims.

After that, the Iranian charge d'affaires in Pakistan, pointing out that the Islamic revolution was the outcome of the struggle of Seyyed Jamal ad-Din Asadabadi and Allama Iqbal, said that since all Muslims are involved in this revolution, it is, therefore, the responsibility of all Muslims to immortalize it. While pointing out the difficulties faced by the region, the charge d'affaires said that the United States and the Soviet Union have hatched conspiracies to involve the Islamic Republic of Iran in internal turmoil, in order to weaken the Islamic revolution and to obstruct the aid provided to Afghan mojahedin. He added that the way is being paved for bombing the oppressed Afghans and that the world is falling victi to this conspiracy. The Iranian charge d'affaires urged all Muslims to unite against the superpowers' conspiracies.

DELEGATION'S ACTIVITIES IN PAKISTAN REPORTED

GF211729 Tehran International Service in Urdu 1315 GMT 21 Feb 81

[Text] Our correspondent reports from Pakistan that the Iranian delegation visiting Pakistan toured the religious schools in Karachi yesterday. Ayatollah Jannati, leader of the delegation, while addressing a gathering of Pakistani Muslims, threw light on the Islamic revolution and its aims.

After that the delegation went to the mosque at Martin Road to offer Friday prayers. A large number of Muslims warmly welcomed the delegation at the mosque. The Iranian delegation leader explained the salient features of the Iranian Islamic revolution. The Pakistani people asked him to convey their sentiments of love and brotherhood to Imam Khomeyni. The people also expressed their willingness to join the jihad, alongside the Iranian forces, against Saddam, the imperialists' hireling, at the orders of Imam Khomeyni. At the invitation of the Imamia students organization, the delegation also visited the mosque of Shah-i-Karbala, where it explained the Islamic Revolution of Iran and the leadership of the imam of the nation.

GHAFURI ON TRIP TO BRITAIN, FRANCE, SCANDINAVIA

GF230704 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 23 Feb 81

[Text] Brother Hasan Ghafuri, governor of Khorasan and leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran's delegation to Britain, France and Scandinavia, declared in a statement following his return to Iran: We were able to inform the peoples and officials of these countries about the Islamic Republic of Iran's views on the Iraqi regime's aggression against Iran. As a result, many officials in these countries, including the foreign ministers of Sweden and Denmark, now support our legitimate stand.

Referring to the conditions of Iranian students in Britain and France, the leader of the Iranian delegation said: Officials in these countries have behaved violently toward our brother students, some of whom have been tortured. We repeatedly stressed this matter in our talks, which had a positive effect. An American wrote the following statement in the visitors book at an exhibition held in London on the second anniversary of the Islamic revolution's victory: I am ashamed to be American because of the crimes the United States has committed in other countries.

Referring to the effective participation by Muslim and non-Muslim students in the [word indistinct] sessions, Brother Ghafuri said: Foreign students, and especially students from Third World countries, have warmly welcomed these sessions and have repeatedly supported the legitimate stand of the Islamic revolution in Iran. They have expressed love for and friendly sentiments toward the Islamic revolution in Iran. A group of university teachers has taken the initiative and formed the Muslim institution, whose resources have been devoted to publicizing Iran's Islamic revolution. It has published numerous books about Iran's Islamic revolution and has been welcomed by various peoples.

In conclusion, Dr Ghafuri said: An Arab brother said to me, if there were five persons in the world like your leader, the world would be a happy place.

EDUCATION MINISTER ON MEETINGS IN EUROPE

GF230512 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 23 Feb 81

[Text] Education Minister Dr Mohammad Javad Bahonar, who has concluded the tour he undertook of the FRG, the GDR, Belgium and Austria to explain the Iraqi aggression against Iran and the stands and standards of the Islamic revolution in its international relations, declared that the leaders of the countries with whom he met showed understanding of the Islamic revolution's stands and a desire to develop their countries' relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Dr Bahonar said that he stressed the Islamic revolution's desire to establish relations with these countries on the basis of mutual interests, higher domestic production and the implementation of agricultural and industrial plans.

The education minister said Austrian officials clearly condemned the Iraqi aggression against Iran and said peace talks should not be held prior to the Iraqi forces' withdrawal from Iranian territory.

Referring to his visit to the GDR, Dr Bahonar said: German officials declared their support for the Islamic revolution's stands. They also expressed their views on the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan. We told them frankly that we reject all forms of hegemony by any superpower, Eastern or Western. We do not differentiate between attempts to impose hegemony and commit aggression.

The education minister said officials in Belgium and Austria declared their desire to develop economic and cultural relations with Iran, while recognizing that Islam is its official religion. Many Muslim emigrants from Turkey and the Arab countries are living in these two countries. They have great respect for the Islamic revolution in Iran and Imam Khomeyni and have asked that Iranian emissaries be dispatched to advocate true and revolutionary Islam.

Concluding his statement to our correspondent, Dr Bahonar said that the Muslim students he met during his European tour expressed their great desire to come to Iran and to join their Iranian brothers on the front against aggression and iniquity. He thanked them for this inspired Islamic sentiment and urged them to continue their studies as a way of contributing to the war front.

SHIRAZ IMAM CRITICIZES GULF GOVERNMENTS, USSR

GF220420 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1530 GMT 21 Feb 81

[Excerpts] Faithful Shiraz Muslims held the glorious Friday prayers, led by His Eminence Ayatollah Hajj Seyyed 'Abdolhoseyn Dastgheyb, in the holy shrine of Ahmad bin Musa yesterday. The Shiraz Friday Imam, in his first sermon, criticized the reactionary Persian Gulf countries that are trying to defeat the widespread efforts of the risen Iranian nation on the order of the murdering United States and warned them against this action. He said our fight against heathen Saddam is a holy and Islamic war, which can be looked at as defense of Islam. He stressed the undefeatable position of the leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran and reminded Muslims that it is the duty of all to continue their efforts to defend the Islamic country and not to stop until the fall and trial of heathen Saddam, who has caused the death of thousands of Iraqi and Iranian Muslims.

In the second sermon of Friday prayers, His Eminence Ayatollah Dastgheyb spoke about the gift of freedom and the importance of not violating the rights of Muslims. He also discussed the honor of Muslims and overreacting. He also asked writers to take care with their pens, not to be devilish, to use their pens for Islam and for God and to seek the best for people.

At the end of his sermon, he expressed the hope that the aggressor Soviet Union will recall its army from the country of Muslim brother Afghans, so that the way can be paved for the freedom of this country and its people.

U.S. 'RACISM' AGAINST IRANIAN STUDENTS CONDEMNED

LD220012 Tehran in English to Europe 1930 GMT 21 Feb 81

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] The assassination of an Iranian student in Oklahoma City in the United States, which was communicated by news agencies, indicates extensive anti-Iranian attempts made by U.S. imperialism and especially by Ronald Reagan's administration across the United States and all over the world. This crime, which is not unprecedented in the so-called civilized society of the United States, made the ugly face of the United States regime known to the world following the outbreak of the Islamic revolution of Iran and its anti-imperialist and anti-Zionist position.

After the occupation of the den of espionage in Tehran last year and the running high of the anti-imperialist atmosphere in Iran, the U.S. ruling clique attained a weak national unity for only a few months with the creation of anti-Iranian atmosphere in order to counter the issue of the occupation of the den of espionage and in order to exploit the situation.

The U.S. intention in creating an atmosphere of national unity was to cover up for the social as well as economic problems of the American people.

Following the reinforcement of the injured national pride, the U.S. propaganda machine created such an anti-Iranian atmosphere that persuaded some of the Americans to have a racist reaction to the issue in spite of the level of knowledge and culture of the American people. The brainwashing system used by the U.S. imperialism under the cover of democracy did not in the beginning give the Iranian students in the United States a chance to become familiarized with the real issues. However, it was after the outbreak of the Islamic revolution of Iran that the Iranian students realized the filthy nature of imperialism more than ever before. Dispatches received from the United States over the past few days and the assassination of an Iranian student, together with the injury of several other Iranian students in the United States, as well as the running high of the anti-Iranian atmosphere in the racist states of the United States, can be linked with the structure of the American society.

Racist clashes, especially those of the past 2 years, are indicative of the rekindling of the fire of racist tendencies in U.S. society. This issue, which has to be studied in the light of U.S. historical conditions, is not irrelevant to Reagan's coming into power. In the course of the recent U.S. presidential elections Reagan revealed his racist viewpoint by raising certain issues. The Ku Klux Klan's support for Reagan is expressive of the racists' support by Reagan's administration.

It is in view of these conditions that our students in the United States have been made targets of the fury of racist groups and elements in the wake of the occupation of the den of espionage. It was this anti-imperialist move which was used as pretext for the U.S. ruling class as well as for the racist elements to reveal their opposition to Iranians and to the Islamic revolution. The investigation conducted on Iranian students in the United States under the pretext of investigation into the state of the residence of the students is a clearcut example of the [word indistinct] instigated by the U.S. Government.

In addition to the assassination of an innocent Iranian student, which is the most serious form of this kind of opposition, the U.S. Government is creating obstacles for the Iranian students in educational institutions and is imprisoning them under baseless reasons. The racist judicial and police officials of certain cities in the United States are exerting the maximum of harassments on our students. Before the release of the hostages the U.S. State Department put the U.S. Justice Department under pressure so as to set free the innocent Iranian students in order to have the hostages released at an earlier date. In any case, U.S. imperialism, which has not failed any efforts to strike a blow on the Islamic revolution of Iran, is trying to harass the Iranian students who are devoted to the Islamic revolution of Iran. (?Ironically), the U.S. secretary of state has recently published a pamphlet on the violation of human rights in Iran. However, the U.S. State Department has not referred to the crimes committed against Iranian students and even against the American nation.

Although the racist and imperialist outlook of the U.S. regime prevents it from comprehending this fact, that the Muslim and militant nation of Iran is prepared to offer more sacrifices in the way of the materialization of freedom and defeating imperialism, it is up to our Muslim and militant students to stand firm against imperialism, this enemy of the oppressed nations, and expose its filthy and ugly face to the world in the direction of inflicting blows upon world imperialism.

AFP REVIEWS TENSE IRANIAN POLITICAL SITUATION

NC230844 Paris AFP in English 0830 GMT 23 Feb 81

[By Jean-Pierre Perrin]

[Text] Tehran, 23 Feb (AFP)--Ugly scenes of violence have broken out at recent public rallies in Iran and amid fears among the country's leadership that political dissent is taking a dangerous course.

President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr brought these fears into the open on Saturday after he visited Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni at his home in north Tehran. "Thuggery" was the work of hooligans, the president said, warning that it was impossible "to conquer intelligence with sticks". He offered to take part in a television debate to find a solution to the "problem of thuggery".

It is not a new worry for Iran, supporters of the president having previously complained that "provocateurs" were at work. But the violence has been on the upswing in recent weeks, with clashes at Esfahan, central Iran, during a speech by Mr Bani-Sadr on January 26, and at a mosque in Kutschesfahan, north Iran, during an address nine days ago by Ayatollah Hassan Lahuti, who is close to the president.

After the mosque fighting, Ayatollah Lahuti said that the "attackers" had even opened fire on him.

Political shock-waves from this attack were immediate, and Ayatollah Khomeyni's clergyman son Ahmad spoke out publicly against the "silence of the country's leadership" on the question of "thugs".

Yesterday Ayatollah Khomeyni was warned that violence was being used as a way towards controlling society in the interests of a "certain faction". The claim was made in an open letter to him from the Iran Liberation Movement (ILM), one of whose founders was Mehdi Bazargan, prime minister in Iran's former provisional government.

Its letter, published in the newspaper MIZAN, voiced astonishment at the "silence of the judicial authorities" on the matter, adding that those responsible for the violence claimed to support Ayatollah Khomeyni.

There was quite a different reaction from the clergy-led Islamic Republic Party (IRP), which dominates parliament.

In a speech to MP's yesterday, IRP Deputy 'Ali Akbar Nateq Nuri criticized fellow Hojjat ol-Eslam Ahmad Khomeyni for having taken up "unilateral" stands and "discouraged the people and encouraged America" by denying the country's other problems.

While condemning the Kutchesfahan incident, the deputy accused "liberals" of having failed to condemn aggressions against IRP officials and religious figures close to the party. He said other clashes broke out recently "on the pretext of supporting President Bani-Sadr", at Yazd in central Iran and Mashhad in the northeast. All such fighting was triggered by groups carrying photographs of Mr Bani-Sadr, Hojjat ol-Eslam Nateq Nuri said. The MP added: "I ask him not to tolerate them any longer."

The IRP has stressed the responsibility of "liberal" speakers in these incidents. Party leader Ayatollah Mohammad Beheshti declared last week: "Speeches must not fuel tensions and speakers must not provoke the people."

Neither side, "liberals" nor IRP members, have identified the trouble-makers. But religious radicals have claimed that the provocateurs frequently carry photographs of the president, while Mr Bani-Sadr's supporters have accused the Interior Ministry of negligence in the matter.